

The Dead Horse DISPATCH

May 2010

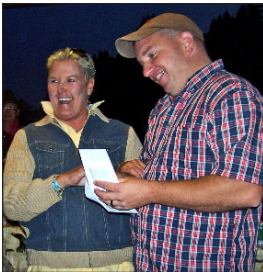
Eric & Rebecca

A newsletter by and for the volunteers of Dead Horse Ranch State Park



John Ward and Emerson Trushel gloat over the new plaque listing them as winners of the park's first Baggo tournament. For the first time in several years, women were allowed in the Horseshoe Tournament and the Baggo event.

Winner of the Chili Cook-off was Volunteer Laurie Blitsch, followed closely by Ranger Margie Sanchez. Randall and



Linda Hawk's chili placed third. Thanks to all who entered, including Rose and Frank Larramore's Gator Chili, and John Ward's Chocolate Chili.



Linda and Randall Hawk are presented a plaque by Les Bovee for all of their service and support of the park. They've made their



facilities available for holiday parties, and everyone at the park has enjoyed Randall's hot cinnamon rolls and Linda's brownies and cookies. They are always generously there when something is needed.



The Horseshoe Tournament was won by Asst. Manager Justin Swiger and Cyril Soukup. Cyril (used to be a volunteer here), was playing for volunteer Jim Harris. The second place team was Volunteer Carl Hartman and Ranger Tony Viotti, far left & far right.



Les presents Keith Mangels with a plaque for 5,000 hours of volunteer service at DHRSP.

Hairy Gary (Munson) from the Prairie (Eric picked the name) was honored for 2000 hours of service. He is flanked by Manager Les Bovee and volunteer coordinator Eric Buzonas. Gary is known all over town as Santa, and is frequently recognized by little people who sat on his lap at Christmas time.



March 22, 2010
Eric & Rebecca

Rebecca and Eric pose with the wedding cake given to them by the volunteers at the potluck.

Volunteer Coordinator Eric Buzonas and his stepdaughter, Kayla, admire the wedding cake provided by the volunteers for Rebecca, Eric, Nathan and Kayla.



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We won't say that Bill Fritz and Carol were first in line, but they were close. Bill is now working as a seasonal at Fort Verde State Park.



Bill and Maxine Bean, facing camera, brought their granddaughter to the cook-off and potluck. That's Judi Mangels with her back to the camera.



Les presents Eric's new wife, Rebecca, with a very special pin prepared by Maryan Pharo and Nan Hephner. With a pair of wedding rings in the corner, it read "Gilded horse award presented to Rebecca Buzonas for courage, bravery and incredible guts." She said she would wear the pin proudly.



Rose Larramore, John Ward, Carolyn and Wes Scott, could be called the "dessert first" group.



Bill and Maxine's granddaughter graciously agreed to be an impartial chili judge, along with Park Manager Les Bovee and Nancy Buzonas.



Eric's sister, Nancy Buzonas, leads the line through salads, beans, etc., followed by volunteer Carl Hartman, and former Greenway Volunteer Amy Gaiennie. The chow, as always, was plentiful and excellent.

Wild Bob Akey, Goonie Bill Lefleur, and Pat Hawker with the wild cowboy hat earrings wait patiently for the judging to end.



Bill Lafleur receives a "Goonie Bill" license plate with rising swamp monster for his 4000 hours of volunteer service to the park.



John Ward got a big kick in the pants out of his award, a T-shirt that reads, "4,000 hours & still going THONG!"



Cowboy Bob Akey received a framed photo of his "Howdy Do-Dat" fame for his 2500 hours of service. He came prepared for a shootout with chaps, cowboy boots, knife and six-shooter.



And, there they are at the foodline, along with Park Manager Shiela Stubler (Fort Verde State Park), and of course, Volunteer Coordinator Eric Buzonas.



Karen Trushel and Park Manager Les Bovee enjoyed a game of Baggo while waiting for the judges to determine a winner.

Honoring Jim Dunn



Les Bovee and Eric Buzonas congratulate longtime area volunteer Jim Dunn, for his many years of service and loyalty to the park. Jim is moving on to another area and will be greatly missed by all of us.

James Dunn, or Pocky as he's known by the grandkids, will be 90 years old in September, 2010. Prior to moving to Cottonwood five years ago, he lived in Phoenix where he did volunteer work for the food bank at the John C. Lincoln hospital. At the time he left Phoenix he had clocked in a total of 10,000 hours at the food bank and was honored at the Bank One Ball Park pregame.

Upon arrival in Cottonwood, he has added the Verde Valley Medical Center and Dead Horse Ranch to his volunteering resume. In the four short years of residence in the Verde Valley he has already clocked about 4,000 hours at these community institutions. As if that's not enough, until just recently when he blew his knee out, he also got up every morning for a run, ran in the Senior Olympics (winning gold medals for each grandchild and then some), still plays baseball, and once even finished the P.F. Chang's Half-Marathon 30 minutes faster than his daughter and granddaughter. Jim also served his country as a U. S. Navy sailor on the U.S.S.

We are sad to announce that DHRSP Volunteer Jim Dunn will be leaving us at the end of March. He will be moving to Ashland, Oregon to stay with his daughter. Words truly can't express our gratitude for the five years of service he has given to DHRSP.

Jim Dunn has an innate knack for reminding people about the magic of life. How does he do this? Each day when he arrives, there's a smile on his face! A story to tell! Like a ripple from a pool of water, Jim's kindness resonates from wherever he plants his feet. Jim will often greet me with a friendly comment about my newborn son, or the latest updates on NFL Football, "How about those Steelers last night, Eric? Did you see that catch in the 4th quarter? Man what a comeback!"

At 89 years young, Jim has just informed me that he is retiring from competitive running. He said, "You know Eric, my knees are starting to bother me a little. I'll probably just start walking a lot." Jim's kindness and zest for living has been an inspiration to me. Great reminders to keep moving, keep giving, and keep living. Thanks for everything you do Jim. You will be greatly missed by all of us at Dead Horse Ranch State Park.

(submitted Eric Buzonas, Volunteer Coordinator DHRSP)

Texas, serving in both the Atlantic and Pacific theaters. He was there at Normandy as well as Iwo Jima and many other historically significant battles. His eleven grandchildren and four great grandchildren think he's amazing and are proud to call him their grandfather. He was always an active participant in each of his one son and 3 daughter's lives. He always liked to watch "Frankenstein" or "Dracula" or "The Wolfman" with the family, turning out all the lights and scaring them by sneaking up behind them and screaming. Then he and Dorothy, his wife of 50 years and "Mom" to the kids, would ask everyone if they would like a "little ice cream". A trough-sized bowl for each kid would soon be delivered, filled with a "little ice cream."

Kind to everyone and with a bad word for none, James Dunn will be missed in Cottonwood by his daughter, son-in-law, granddaughter and friends.

submitted by Mary Ellen Dunn

"Dead Horse Ranch Volunteer Mascot" Submit your entry to the contest!!!



Easter Sunday at DHRSP

A favorite activity on Easter Sunday was fishing. Some folks actually were able to land a fish before the otters, hiding under the dock, could snag it off the line. Below, Volunteer Maryan Pharo watches a family enjoy a game of horseshoes while they wait for dinner to be prepared.

Every ramada was rented and it was wall to wall cars in the lagoon parking lots on Easter Sunday. It was family day, and Easter fun with candy-filled Easter eggs and lots of good food



Volunteer News Coming & Goings

- * Laurie Blitsch leaving April 30th
- * Norm & Nan Hephner leaving May 1st
- * Jim Harris & Maryan Pharo leaving April 25th
- * Gary & Sharon Munson leaving April 30th
- * John & Wanda Ward leaving April 27th
- * Karen & Emerson Trushel leaving April 30th
- * Bob & Toni Mann (Raven Loop Maintenance #2) May 1st
- * Tom & Pam Sanor (Red Tail Loop Hosts) May 1st

May Milestones

- 7-Maxine Bean
- 9-Indigo Canter
- 16-Carolyn Scott
- 21-Bill Bean
- 26-Jim & Marilyn Aker (1962)
- 29-Maryan & Jim Harris (1994)
- 29-Jake Pratt
- 30-Judson Munsell

Dates to Remember

May

- Tuesdays - 6:30 Gamenight, Greenway, bring snack, beverage, game, learn a new one
- 3 - Volunteer Meeting, 9 am
- 9 - Mother's Day
- 17 - Volunteer Meeting, 9 am
- April 21-25 - Verde Valley Birding and Nature Festival
- 31 - Memorial Day

Recipes

Ellen Stone's Chocolate Cake

- 1 chocolate cake mix
- 2 eggs
- 1 can cherry pie filling
- 1 tsp almond flavoring
- Mix together with a spoon. Bake 35 minutes at 350 degrees in 9x13 pan.
- Meanwhile, boil together, stirring constantly for 1 minute:
- 1 cup sugar
- 5 T margarine
- 1.3 cup milk
- Remove from heat and stir in 1 cup chocolate chips.
- After frosting the warm cake with the warm icing, sprinkle another cup of chocolate chips on top.

Bicycling Magazine (May 2010 issue) has just come out with an article titled *America's Best Bike Cities* and Arizona has three in the top 20 (tied with Oregon for that honor) which are: Tucson #9, Phoenix/Tempe #15 and Scottsdale #20. There are 50 cities cited, so having 6% of the total and 3 in the top 20 is very impressive for Arizona!

Randy Victory, Park Ranger II
League of American Bicyclists Instructor
National Mountain Bike Patrol Instructor
Dead Horse Ranch State Park

Hi Eric, How are you doing? I am now in Fort Leonard Wood, MO and we start training tomorrow. I am very excited to be part of this mission because a lot of people have tried to get this school and have not been accepted. It's for Protective Services, escorts. We'll be in suits during part of it... kind of cool. I like the guys I'm going with, they seem like good people. Let me know what's new there. I hope that you and your family are doing well. Say hi to everyone for me, Liz Rex

Hi Carolyn, Thanks for the April Newsletter. I am in Keystone, CO for the ski season so it is nice to see some pictures of DHRSP and a different type of scenery. And of course it is good to see so many familiar names of people I have volunteered with over the years. Ed Lyon

Carolyn, thanks for sending the newsletter again with the article about my Dad. My Mom shed a few more tears but we have been walking and are going to put a bench down by the lagoons in his memory. Carol Johnson

Eric we are sorry we didn't get to say good bye to you. We were both so sick with ear and sinus infections. We have gone thru our antibiotics and rested up here at the lake for a few days and are finally back amongst the living. We finally put the boat on the water today. No fish but it was nice to be out on the lake. We would not believe me when I tried to tell him that you can't put a forwarding address in for the address there at DHRSP... one of those selective hearing moments Ha Ha I have an aunt who lives here at the lake and my brother lives pretty close. Quigley got out of the fence at my aunts when we went to visit her and it took us an hour and a half to find him. I was frantic. He is still keeping us on our toes. Please let Linda know that our forwarding address is: General Delivery Roosevelt, AZ 85545 Please tell all that we said hello and wish them all HAPPY TRAILS, Carolyn and Wes Scott

Hi Carolyn, We sure enjoy getting the "Dispatch". Great Job. Nancy and I finished our volunteer/host gig in CA at the end of Feb. Our rig is in storage in Chino Valley, AZ. We have returned to the San Juan Islands, WA.. Yes, it is raining — of course it is raining. Things should be drying out a bit as we get into April. We're looking forward to another good season on the water; watching all those Orca Whales. Cheers to everyone. Pete and Nancy Hardy



Farewell to Les Les & Elizabeth heading to Alaska



Saying good-bye is never easy and John Ward found it difficult to find the words.



There was a laugh a minute when Les received his presents for the trip to Alaska.



Volunteer Wanda Ward, left, shares a light moment with Elizabeth and Les before the food line opened.

More Move News in June

Prayers for a Speedy Recovery

Jack & Robbie Bard will not be coming this year. Jack has had some physical problems and was just released from the hospital to rehab a few days ago. Cards/flowers can be sent to their home address:

Jack & Robbie Bard, 126 Rainbow Drive #2629, Livingston, Texas 77399
phone # (404) 402-9185